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Book Reviews.

Dissertations on the Apostolic Age. Reprinted from Editions of St. Paul's Epistles. By the late J. B. LIGHTFOOT, D.D., D.C.L., LL.D., Lord Bishop of Durham. London: Macmillan & Co., 1892. pp. 435.

The five dissertations reprinted in this volume possess an independent value, and are re-issued in this form in the hope that they may reach a larger number of general readers. The topics discussed are, "The Brethren of the Lord," "St. Paul and the Three," "The Christian Ministry," "St. Paul and Seneca," and "The Essenes." The only additions are full indexes of subjects and passages, and a few pages of supplementary notes to the essay on "The Christian Ministry." In this the main position held by the church of England, "that from the Apostles' time there have been these orders of ministers in Christ's church, bishops, priests and deacons," is reaffirmed, and certain misapprehensions corrected. The dissertations have been so long before the public, and are so well-known, as to need no extended critical notice. Many whose studies do not lead them to a use of Bishop Lightfoot's invaluable commentaries will, nevertheless, be glad to possess these models of careful and critical scholarship in a separate form. P. A. N.

A Short Commentary on the Book of Daniel. By A. A. BEVAN, M.A., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. New York: MacMillan & Co., 1892. Pp. XIII. and 235. \$1.75.

The author states in the preface that this volume is intended "to assist those who are entering upon the study of the language and text of the Book of Daniel." He does not claim to present much that is new, but attempts to bring together into a small compass material valuable for the understanding of this book. In his "Prolegomena" he discusses briefly the text and the oldest versions, ancient and mediæval interpreters, and modern interpreters; the origin and purpose of the book, its linguistic character, and the Septuagint version.

Mr. Bevan disposes of a large amount of material in this introduction, but is not sufficiently careful in his statements. On p. 16 he finds a difficulty where none occurs; Nebuchadrezzar made his *first trip* to Palestine before he became actual king on the throne of Babylon, the years of Dan. i. 1. agreeing exactly with the statements of Jer. xxv. 1. On p. 18, it seems evident to his mind that Belshazzar is represented in Daniel as supreme ruler, "which certainly does not agree with the theory [it is no theory, but a fact] that his father was still alive and at the head of the state." On p. 40 are examples of statements which the author would not have made if he had